

**SECRET**

2 February 1959

Recent Soviet Statements on ICBM capability

Khrushchev, 14 November 1958:

In a speech before the Central Committee in which he introduced his Seven-Year Plan theses, Khrushchev summarized recent Soviet scientific and technical progress. Among other things, he said:

[ "Production of intercontinental ballistic rockets has been set up successfully."

Usachev, 4 December 1958:

A Soviet delegate to the Geneva conference on prevention of surprise attack, Usachev had an informal dinner with a member of the US delegation at which he defended Soviet progress and superiority in the ballistic missile field by saying, among other things:

1. Soviet ICBMs are at present in "mass production."
2. The Soviets "have operational ICBM bases now in more than token number."
3. The Soviets have solved the ICBM guidance problem and the system is "quite accurate."
4. The Soviets have solved the ICBM re-entry problem.

Note: About a year earlier (18 November 1957) in New York, Usachev had told a member of the US delegation to the United Nations that the balance of military power is changing in Soviet favor and that the Soviet Union has enough ICBMs now to destroy the US. He said that 50-100 "are enough."

Khrushchev, 27 January 1959:

In a report on the new seven-year plan to the special 21st Party Congress in Moscow, Khrushchev stated that:

[ "serial production of intercontinental ballistic rockets has been organized."

Melnikovsky, 2 Feb 1959.

Sov. Army equipped with...

An intercontinental rocket shot past moon  
to become **SECRET** an artificial satellite  
of the sun.